(d) What is the definition of a Foreign Brand Name?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. As per industrial policy for TV receivers, use of foreign brand names is not allowed in the manufacture and sale of TV receivers, both Black and White and Colour.

(b) This is because foreign brand names are likely to distort consumers preference and place the T.V. sets with local brand names at a disadvantage.

(c) As a general policy, foreign brand names are not allowed for use on products for internal sale, although there is no objection to their use on products to be exported. A condition to this effect is accordingly incorporated in all approvals for foreign collaboration.

(d) The Trade and Merchandise Marks Act does not contain any definition of foreign brand names though the term is generally understood to be in relation to trade marks owned by a foreign national or a foreign company.

Claims of Bhopal Gas Victims

11. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA:
SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ :
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a settlement of Bhopal Gas Victims' claims has been reached with the Union Carbide Corporation;

(b) if the aswer to part (a) above be in the negative what are the difficulties in reaching a settlement and what is the present stage of the case;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Union Carbide Corporation has recently made a tentative offer of 350 million dollars to the private plaintiffs lawyers; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) U.C.C. has so far failed to offer an amount which will fairly and fully compensate the victims. The decisions of the U.S. court on motion of forum non-conveniens moved by U.C.C., is expected shortly.

(c) While U. C. C. has announced that it will attempt to negotiate such a settlement, it has not arrived at such a settlement nor has it moved the court for approval in this regard.

(d) Government has opposed and will continue to oppose such settlement efforts For this purpose, all necessary legal actions will be taken to defeat such attempts.

Inviting fresh bids for HBJ Pipeline

12. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on the 27th March, 1986 fresh financial bids from all the earlier consortia for the Haira-Bijapur-Jagadishpur natural gas pipeline were invited by his Ministry for being submitted by 3rd April, 1986

(b) if so, the total number of bids received so far and the details of the parties; and

(c) what were the reasons for not giving adequate time to the parties to submit their bids?